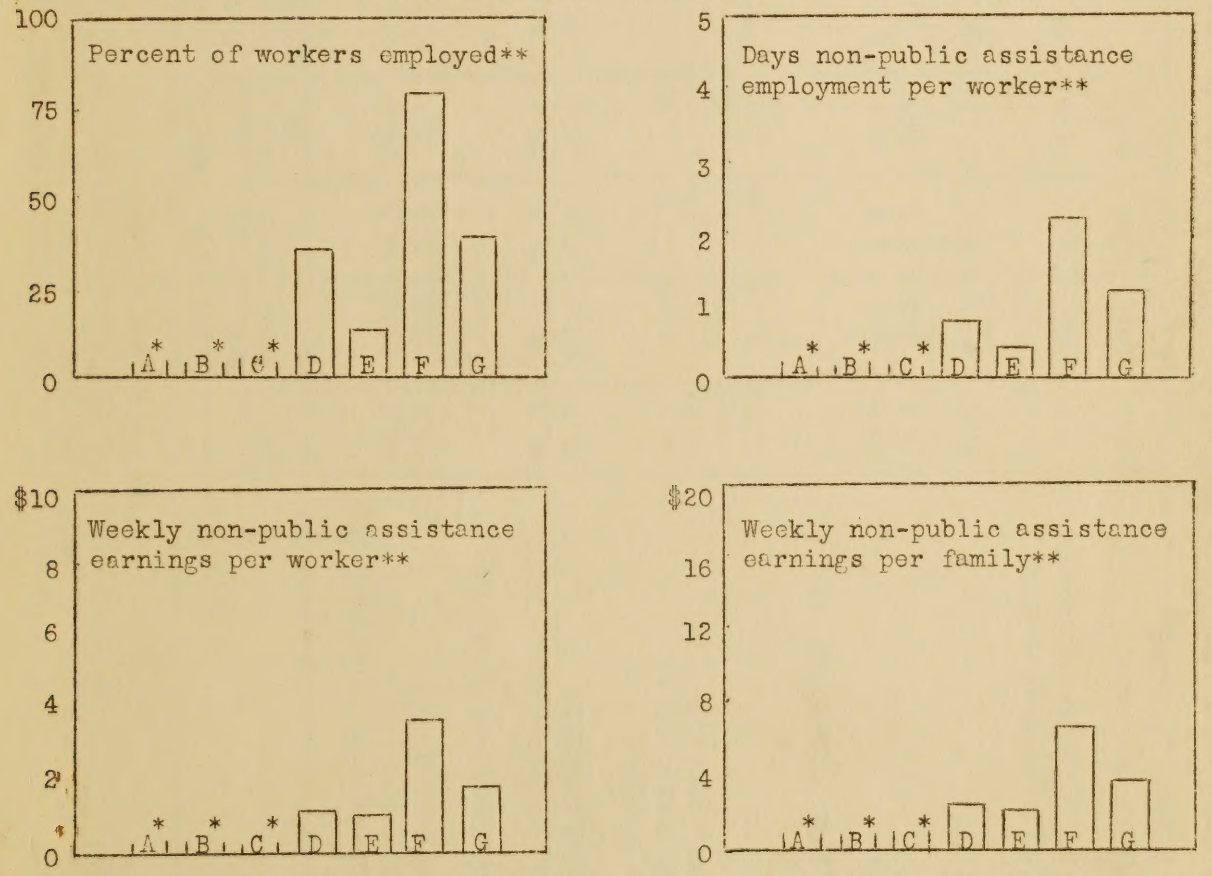
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bureau of Agricultural Economics
and
Farm Security Administration

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS LIVING IN FSA FARM LABOR CAMPS

Current Report No. 12

Arizona and California Camps,* December 1 to December 28, 1940



* Northwest camps were closed for the winter on December 1,1940.
** These averages include all workers and all families.

Camps designated by:

A. Western Oregon
B. Eastern Oregon & Southern Idaho
C. Yakima, Washington
D. Imperial & Coachella Valleys
E. Northern California
F. Arizona
G. San Joaquin Valley

Berkeley, California

January 24, 1941

For official use only

Table 1.- SUMMARY OF WEEKLY EMPLOYMENT
Agricultural workers living in FSA farm labor camps
in California, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, Idaho
December 1 to Dec 28, 1940

	California - Arizona					Oregon - Washington - Idaho 1/				
	Week ending				Four week average	Week ending				Four week average
	Dec. 7	Dec. 14	Dec. 21	Dec. 28		Dec. 7	Dec. 14	Dec. 21	Dec. 28	
1. Percentage of workers receiving employment:										
(a) Other than public assistance	60.8	56.7	32.5	26.3	43.5					
(b) Public assistance projects	7.0	7.0	7.4	6.1	6.8					
2. Percentage of families with at least one worker employed:										
(a) Other than public assistance	71.7	63.1	41.6	34.5	52.2					
(b) Public assistance projects	11.9	12.1	13.1	10.5	11.9					
3. Average workers per family:										
(a) Other than public assistance	1.13	1.05	.59	.50	.81					
(b) Public assistance projects	.13	.13	.14	.12	.13					
(c) Unemployed	.61	.67	1.10	1.29	.93					
(d) Total workers	1.86	1.85	1.82	1.91	1.86					
4. Average days employment (other than on public assistance):										
(a) Employed workers	3.8	2.7	1.6	2.4	2.8					
(b) All workers	2.3	1.6	0.5	0.6	1.2					
5. Employment index 2/	38.5	25.8	8.6	10.5	20.4					
6. Average distance (in miles) from camp to job (public assistance projects excluded)	6.5	6.3	6.9	4.3	6.1					
(Camps included in above figures)	(20)	(21)	(21)	(22)	xxx					
(Families included in above figures)	(251)	(263)	(274)	(275)	(1063)					

1/ The camps in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho were closed for the winter on December 1.

2/ Man-days employment received on other than public assistance projects ÷ man-days available for employment (allowing for a six-day week). If all workers were fully employed, the index number would be 100.

Table 2.- SUMMARY OF WEEKLY EARNINGS
Agricultural workers living in FSA farm labor camps
in California, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, Idaho
December 1 to December 28, 1940

	California - Arizona					Oregon - Washington - Idaho 1/				
	Week ending				Four week average	Week ending				Four week average
	Dec. 7	Dec. 14	Dec. 21	Dec. 28		Dec. 7	Dec. 14	Dec. 21	Dec. 28	
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
1. Average earnings from other than public assistance projects:										
(a) Per worker employed	6.04	5.26	3.13	3.73	4.87					
(b) Per worker: All workers	3.67	2.98	1.02	.98	2.12					
2. Average earnings from public assistance projects:										
(a) Per worker engaged	11.39	10.13	9.42	9.52	10.11					
3. Average family earnings: All families										
(a) Employment other than public assistance	6.83	5.50	1.85	1.87	3.93					
(b) Employment on public assistance projects	1.50	1.31	1.27	1.06	1.28					
(c) All employment (a) + (b)	8.33	6.81	3.12	2.93	5.21					
(Camps included in above figures)	(20)	(21)	(21)	(22)	xxx					
(Families included in above figures)	(251)	(263)	(274)	(275)	(1063)					

1/ The camps in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho were closed for the winter on December 1.

Table 3.- WEEKLY EMPLOYMENT BY REGIONS
Agricultural workers living in FSA farm labor camps
in California and Arizona
December 1 to December 28, 1940

	Week ending December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28	Four-week average
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMPS					
1. Percentage of workers employed:					
(a) On other than public assistance projects	18	24	10	7	14
(b) On public assistance projects	23	19	12	9	15
2. Percentage of families with at least one worker employed 1/	29	31	16	14	23
3. Average earnings, all families:					
(a) On other than public assistance projects	$1.81	$4.94	$1.06	$ .70	$2.13
(b) On public assistance projects	$4.31	$2.48	$1.63	$1.74	$2.54
(c) All employment ((a) + (b))	$6.12	$7.42	$2.69	$2.44	$4.67
4. Employment index 2/	8.2	15.6	2.8	3.0	7.1
5. Average miles from camp to job 1/	10.6	5.9	11.3	2.9	7.9
6. (Number of camps included in above calculations)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
7. Number of families included in above calculations)	(51)	(51)	(51)	(51)	(204)
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CAMPS					
1. Percentage of workers employed:					
(a) On other than public assistance projects	58	47	29	14	38
(b) On public assistance projects	4	6	4	9	6
2. Percentage of families with at least one worker employed 1/	79	65	40	18	52
3. Average earnings, all families:					
(a) On other than public assistance projects	$7.14	$5.22	$1.55	$ .74	$3.80
(b) On public assistance projects	$1.07	$1.59	$ .99	$1.50	$1.28
(c) All employment ((a) + (b))	$8.21	$6.81	$2.54	$2.24	$5.08
4. Employment index 2/	35.6	27.4	7.0	2.5	19.2
5. Average miles from camp to job 1/	7.4	7.6	7.7	7.0	7.5
6. (Number of camps included in above calculations)	(7)	(7)	(6)	(6)	xxx
7. (Number of families included in above calculations)	(99)	(96)	(93)	(84)	(372)

1/ Public assistance projects excluded.

2/ Man-days employment received on other than public assistance projects ÷ man-days available for employment (allowing for a 6-day week). If all workers were fully employed the index number would be 100.

(Continued)

Table 3.- WEEKLY EMPLOYMENT BY REGIONS (Continued)

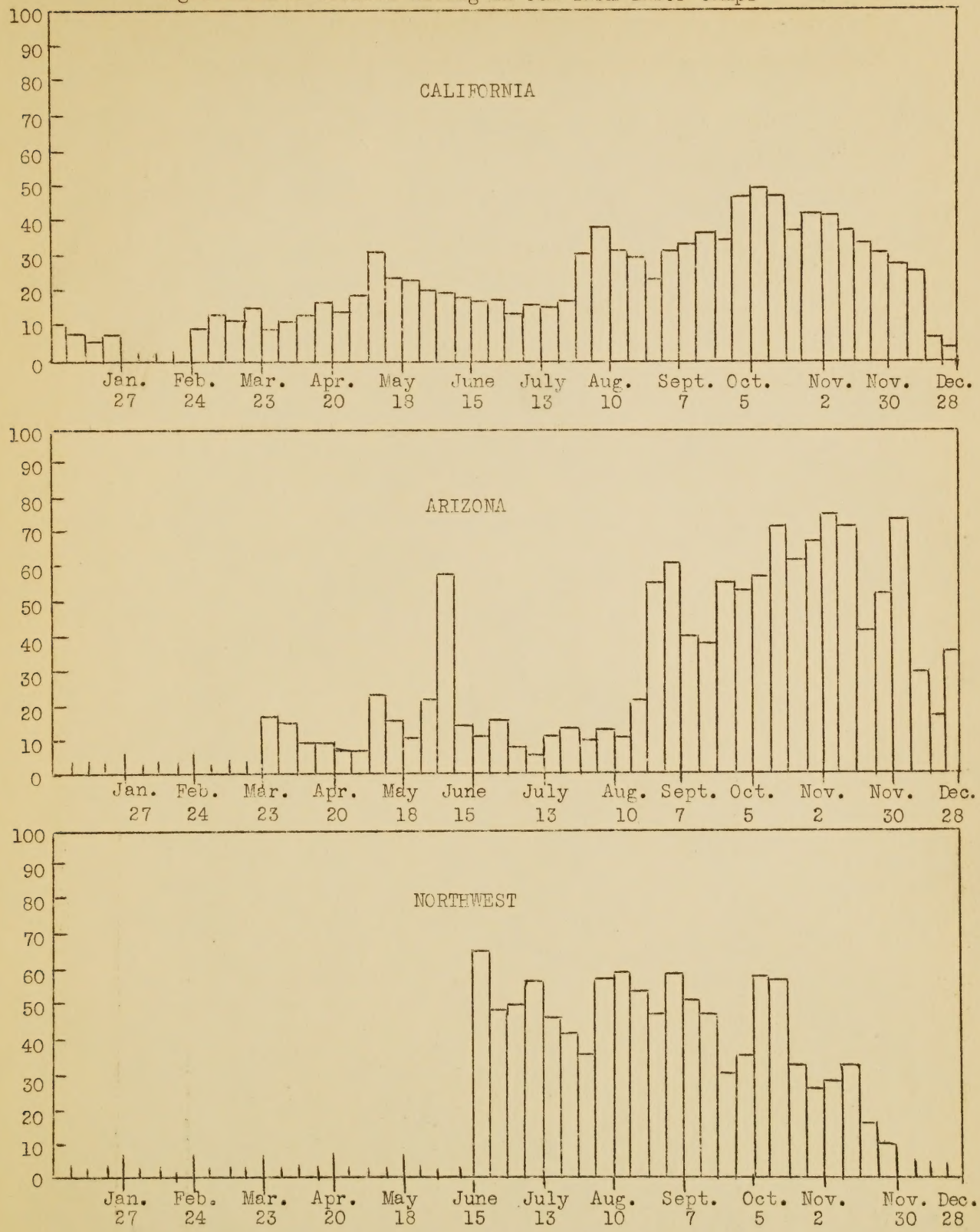
	Week ending December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28	Four-week average
IMPERIAL AND COACHELLA VALLEY CAMPS					
1. Percentage of workers employed:					
(a) On other than public assistance projects	67	57	31	14	36
(b) On public assistance projects	2	5	5	3	4
2. Percentage of families with at least one worker employed 1/	73	56	39	24	43
3. Average earnings, all families:					
(a) On other than public assistance projects	$4.12	$4.19	$1.30	$ .78	$2.23
(b) On public assistance projects	$ .22	$ .47	$ .79	$ .30	$ .46
(c) All employment ((a) + (b))	$4.34	$4.66	$2.09	$1.08	$2.69
4. Employment index 2/	25.2	29.9	7.2	3.2	13.4
5. Average miles from camp to job 1/	8.3	11.2	5.4	3.8	8.1
6. (Number of camps included in above calculations)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	xxx
7. (Number of families included in above calculations)	(33)	(45)	(57)	(68)	(203)
ARIZONA CAMPS					
1. Percentage of workers employed:					
(a) On other than public assistance projects	95	90	55	71	77
(b) On public assistance projects	3	2	10	4	5
2. Percentage of families with at least one worker employed 1/	93	89	64	79	81
3. Average earnings, all families:					
(a) On other than public assistance projects	$11.47	$7.09	$3.21	$5.06	$6.63
(b) On public assistance projects	$ .62	$ .63	$1.76	$ .74	$ .95
(c) All employment ((a) + (b))	$12.09	$8.72	$4.97	$5.80	$7.58
4. Employment index 2/	72.9	28.0	16.0	34.1	37.0
5. Average miles from camp to job 1/	4.3	3.6	6.4	3.7	4.3
6. (Number of camps included in above calculations)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)
7. (Number of families included in above calculations)	(68)	(71)	(73)	(72)	(284)

1/ Public assistance projects excluded.

2/ Man-days employment received on other than public assistance projects ÷ man-days available for employment (allowing for a 6-day week). If all workers were fully employed the index number would be 100.

WEEKLY EMPLOYMENT INDEX*

Agricultural workers living in FSA farm labor camps



* The employment index is determined as follows: Aggregate man-days employment on other than public assistance projects for the week is divided by the aggregate man-days available for employment (employed plus unemployed), allowing for a six-day week.